

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - September 2012

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
IOWA, Northeast				
(IA-Z008) MITCHELL, (IA-Z009) HOWARD, (IA-Z010) WINNESHIEK, (IA-Z011) ALLAMAKEE, (IA-Z018) FLOYD, (IA-Z019) CHICKASAW, (IA-Z029) FAYETTE, (IA-Z030) CLAYTON				
	09/01/12 00:00 CST	0		Drought
	09/30/12 23:59 CST	0		
<p>Persistent below normal precipitation allowed severe to extreme drought conditions to continue across all of northeast Iowa. With the continued lack of precipitation, the extreme drought conditions expanded to cover all of Floyd and Mitchell Counties. Affects of the drought include damaged crops, pastures that have stopped growing, river flows that were less than 20 percent of normal, falling ground water levels and burning bans. Around the first of September, the USDA declared Floyd County a federal disaster are due to the drought. In early September, the USDA announced an extension for the emergency grazing deadline on Conservation Reserve Program acres to November 30th. In mid September, the USDA declared Allamakee, Chickasaw, Mitchell and Winneshiek Counties federal disaster areas due to the drought. Christmas tree growers across the state of Iowa reported losses of new seedlings ranging from 50 to 90 percent due to the rapid spring warm up and the drought. The drought has made the allergy season worse for many people. Rain helps wash away the pollen, but with this years drought, wave after wave of pollen entered the air leading to a more intense allergy season.</p>				
ALLAMAKEE COUNTY --- 2.2 E NEW ALBIN [43.50, -91.29]				
	09/04/12 16:40 CST	0		Hail (1.75 in)
	09/04/12 16:40 CST	0		Source: Broadcast Media
Golf ball sized hail fell in New Albin.				
ALLAMAKEE COUNTY --- 0.5 E CHESTER [43.47, -91.51]				
	09/04/12 17:31 CST	0		Hail (2.00 in)
	09/04/12 17:31 CST	0		Source: COOP Observer
Up to 2 inch diameter hail fell in Dorchester.				
CLAYTON COUNTY --- 0.7 S MARQUETTE [43.04, -91.18]				
	09/04/12 17:31 CST	0		Hail (1.75 in)
	09/04/12 17:31 CST	0		Source: Public
Golf ball sized hail fell in Marquette.				
ALLAMAKEE COUNTY --- 1.1 SSE LANSING [43.37, -91.22]				
	09/04/12 17:55 CST	1.50K		Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	09/04/12 17:55 CST	0		Source: Law Enforcement
Trees were blown down on the north side of Lansing.				
ALLAMAKEE COUNTY --- 0.7 E CHESTER [43.47, -91.51]				
	09/04/12 18:04 CST	0		Hail (0.75 in)
	09/04/12 18:04 CST	0		Source: Law Enforcement
ALLAMAKEE COUNTY --- HARPERS FERRY [43.20, -91.15]				
	09/04/12 18:25 CST	0		Hail (1.25 in)
	09/04/12 18:25 CST	0		Source: Public
Up to half dollar sized hail fell in Harpers Ferry.				
FAYETTE COUNTY --- 1.0 E CLERMONT [43.00, -91.65]				
	09/04/12 20:48 CST	0		Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 20:48 CST	0		Source: Emergency Manager
Quarter sized hail fell in Clermont.				
WINNESHIEK COUNTY --- 0.5 E CALMAR [43.18, -91.87]				

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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	09/04/12 21:13 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 21:13 CST		0	Source: COOP Observer
Quarter sized hail fell in Calmar.				
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WINNESHIEK COUNTY --- 0.5 E CALMAR [43.18, -91.87]				
	09/04/12 21:37 CST		0	Hail (1.50 in)
	09/04/12 21:37 CST		0	Source: COOP Observer
Hail the size of walnuts fell in Calmar.				
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WINNESHIEK COUNTY --- 1.7 NW OSSIAN [43.16, -91.81]				
	09/04/12 21:42 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 21:42 CST		0	Source: Public
Quarter sized hail was reported southeast of Calmar.				
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CLAYTON COUNTY --- 1.7 SW OSBORNE [42.78, -91.45]				
	09/04/12 22:00 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 22:00 CST		0	Source: COOP Observer
Quarter sized hail was reported southwest of Elkader.				
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CLAYTON COUNTY --- 1.7 WNW MEDERVILLE [42.78, -91.45]				
	09/04/12 22:00 CST		0	Heavy Rain
	09/05/12 04:00 CST		0	Source: COOP Observer
During the evening hours of the 4th into the early morning hours of the 5th, 3.52 inches of rail fell southwest of Elkader.				
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CLAYTON COUNTY --- 0.6 WSW OSBORNE [42.80, -91.44]				
	09/04/12 22:05 CST		0	Hail (1.50 in)
	09/04/12 22:05 CST		0	Source: 911 Call Center
Up to ping pong ball sized hail fell in Osborne.				
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CLAYTON COUNTY --- 2.2 SSW MEDERVILLE [42.74, -91.43]				
	09/04/12 22:25 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 22:45 CST		0	Source: Public
Dime to quarter sized hail fell for around 20 minutes and covered the ground southwest of Mederville.				
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FLOYD COUNTY --- 1.1 E ROCKFORD [43.05, -92.95]				
	09/04/12 23:15 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	09/04/12 23:15 CST		0	Source: Fire Department/Rescue
An estimated wind gust of 60 miles per hour was reported in Rockford.				
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WINNESHIEK COUNTY --- 0.6 N DECORAH [43.31, -91.80]				
	09/05/12 00:24 CST		1.50K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	09/05/12 00:24 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
Trees were blown down in Decorah.				
Two rounds of severe thunderstorms developed ahead of and along a cold front over northeast Iowa. The storms rolled across the area during the evening hours of September 4th into the early morning of the 5th. The severe thunderstorms produced hail up to two inches in diameter near Dorchester (Allamakee County) and blew down trees near Lansing (Allamakee County) and in Decorah (Winneshiek County).				

MINNESOTA, Southeast

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - September 2012

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
(MN-Z094) MOWER, (MN-Z095) FILLMORE, (MN-Z096) HOUSTON				
	09/01/12 00:00 CST		0	Drought
	09/30/12 23:59 CST		0	
<p>Persistent below normal precipitation allowed severe drought conditions to continue across portions of southeast Minnesota, including Houston, Fillmore and Mower Counties. Affects of the drought include damaged crops, pastures that have stopped growing, river flows that were less than 20 percent of normal, falling ground water levels and high to extreme fire dangers resulting in burning bans. In early September, the USDA announced an extension for the emergency grazing deadline on Conservation Reserve Program acres to November 30th. In mid September, the USDA expanded the disaster declaration for the drought to include Fillmore, Houston and Mower Counties. The drought pushed grain feed prices up 25 to 30 percent impacting dairy and pig farmers who buy most of their feed. With the price of milk essentially unchanged, some dairy farmers are losing money or barely making a profit and have responded by getting out of the dairy business or reducing the amount they feed their cattle to cut costs. Pig farmers were loosing between \$10 and \$15 a head as the price of pork declined 30% coupled with the higher feed costs. Some of these farmers were also getting out of the business or sending a larger than normal amount of pigs to market. The drought also impacted the prairie industry as well. Farms that grow native prairie grasses and flowers were not able to harvest as many seeds as normal. The summer was too hot for too long to allow the plants to produce a normal amount of seeds.</p>				
WINONA COUNTY --- 1.8 SSE ST CHARLES [43.95, -92.07]				
	09/04/12 14:55 CST		0	Hail (1.75 in)
	09/04/12 14:55 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
Golf ball sized hail fell just south of St. Charles.				
WINONA COUNTY --- 3.5 NNE SARATOGA [43.93, -92.04]				
	09/04/12 15:00 CST		0	Hail (2.00 in)
	09/04/12 15:00 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
Hail up to 2 inches in diameter was reported northwest of Clyde.				
WINONA COUNTY --- 0.6 WSW GOODVIEW [44.07, -91.71]				
	09/04/12 15:25 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 15:25 CST		0	Source: Amateur Radio
Nickel to quarter size hail was reported in Goodview.				
WINONA COUNTY --- 0.1 S STOCKTON [44.03, -91.77]				
	09/04/12 15:26 CST		0	Hail (1.75 in)
	09/04/12 15:26 CST		0	Source: Public
Golf ball sized hail was reported in Stockton.				
WINONA COUNTY --- 0.5 W WINONA [44.05, -91.66]				
	09/04/12 15:26 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 15:26 CST		0	Source: Public
WINONA COUNTY --- 0.5 W WINONA [44.05, -91.66]				
	09/04/12 15:47 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 15:47 CST		0	Source: Amateur Radio
FILLMORE COUNTY --- HENRYTOWN [43.60, -91.93]				
	09/04/12 16:23 CST		0	Hail (2.50 in)
	09/04/12 16:23 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
Tennis ball sized hail fell north of Canton.				
WINONA COUNTY --- 0.6 WSW HART [43.88, -91.74]				
	09/04/12 16:30 CST		0	Hail (0.75 in)
	09/04/12 16:30 CST		0	Source: Public
HOUSTON COUNTY --- 0.4 NNE MOUND PRAIRIE [43.79, -91.45]				

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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	09/04/12 16:50 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 16:50 CST		0	Source: COOP Observer
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HOUSTON COUNTY --- 0.4 NNE MOUND PRAIRIE [43.79, -91.45]				
	09/04/12 16:56 CST		0	Hail (2.00 in)
	09/04/12 16:56 CST		0	Source: COOP Observer
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Hail up to 2 inches in diameter was reported in Mound Prairie.				
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FILLMORE COUNTY --- 4.1 SE TAWNEY [43.57, -91.75]				
	09/04/12 16:57 CST		5K	Hail (2.00 in)
	09/04/12 16:57 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
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Hail up to 2 inches in diameter fell northeast of Mabel denting a vehicle. An estimated 60 mph wind gust also occurred.				
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HOUSTON COUNTY --- 0.9 SE SPRING GROVE [43.56, -91.64]				
	09/04/12 17:00 CST		0	Hail (2.50 in)
	09/04/12 17:00 CST		0	Source: Public
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Up to tennis ball sized hail was reported in Spring Grove.				
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HOUSTON COUNTY --- 1.0 ESE SPRING GROVE [43.56, -91.63]				
	09/04/12 17:05 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 17:05 CST		0	Source: Public
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OLMSTED COUNTY --- 1.5 SSE ROCHESTER [44.01, -92.46]				
	09/04/12 23:15 CST		45K	Lightning
	09/05/12 00:15 CST		0	Source: Newspaper
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The roof of a home on the southeast side of Rochester was destroyed by a fire that was ignited by a lightning strike.				
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MOWER COUNTY --- 1.2 WSW MAPLEVIEW [43.68, -93.00]				
	09/04/12 23:21 CST		60K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 56 kt)
	09/04/12 23:21 CST		0	Source: Newspaper
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The KMSQ TV transmitter tower, located at Riverland Community College in Austin, was blown down.				
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DODGE COUNTY --- 0.2 WNW DODGE CENTER ARPT [44.02, -92.83]				
	09/04/12 23:40 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 51 kt)
	09/04/12 23:40 CST		0	Source: AWOS
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The automated weather observing system at the Dodge Center airport measured a wind gust of 59 miles per hour.				
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OLMSTED COUNTY --- 3.2 SW ROCHESTER [44.00, -92.52], 1.6 WNW CHESTER [44.01, -92.38]				
	09/04/12 23:57 CST		0.50M	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 64 kt)
	09/05/12 00:04 CST		0	Source: Broadcast Media
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Over 175 trees were blown down across Rochester. Numerous homes and cars were damaged when the trees landed on them. Power lines were also blown down or came down with the fallen trees, knocking out the power to 4,800 customers across the city.				
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OLMSTED COUNTY --- 3.1 SSE ROCHESTER [43.99, -92.44]				
	09/04/12 23:59 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 64 kt)
	09/04/12 23:59 CST		0	Source: Mesonet
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A mesonet automated weather observing system measured a wind gust of 74 miles per hour in Rochester.				
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OLMSTED COUNTY --- 1.5 SSE ROCHESTER [44.01, -92.46]				
	09/05/12 00:20 CST		40K	Lightning
	09/05/12 01:20 CST		0	Source: Fire Department/Rescue

A house on the southeast side of Rochester was struck by lightning which started a fire in the attic. The fire was quickly brought under control but the lightning strike created a serious electrical problem in the house and two firefighters received minor shocks but were not injured.

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - September 2012

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
HOUSTON COUNTY --- 0.6 ENE CALEDONIA [43.63, -91.49]				
	09/05/12 00:37 CST		95K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 56 kt)
	09/05/12 00:37 CST		0	Source: Broadcast Media
An eighty foot tall tree fell on a garage and four vehicles near the intersection of First and Main Streets in Caledonia.				
Two rounds of severe thunderstorms hit portions of southeast Minnesota during the evening hours of September 4th and the early morning hours of the 5th. The first event, produced large hail up to tennis ball size near Canton (Fillmore County) and the second event produced damaging winds, which mainly impacted the city of Rochester (Olmsted County). Over 175 trees were blown down in Rochester along with power lines causing 4,800 customers to loose power. Lightning struck a Rochester house causing a fire that resulted in over \$40,000 of damage.				
WISCONSIN, Southwest				
(WI-Z029) CLARK, (WI-Z034) JACKSON, (WI-Z041) LA CROSSE, (WI-Z042) MONROE, (WI-Z043) JUNEAU, (WI-Z044) ADAMS, (WI-Z053) VERNON, (WI-Z054) CRAWFORD, (WI-Z055) RICHLAND, (WI-Z061) GRANT				
	09/01/12 00:00 CST		0	Drought
	09/30/12 23:59 CST		0	
Persistent below normal precipitation allowed severe to extreme drought conditions to continue across western Wisconsin. Affects of the drought include damaged crops, pastures that have stopped growing, river flows that were less than 20 percent of normal, falling ground water levels and high to extreme fire dangers resulting in burning bans. The entire state of Wisconsin remained in a state of emergency due to drought. Around the first of September, the USDA declared Adams and Crawford Counties federal disaster areas due to the drought. In early September, the USDA announced an extension for the emergency grazing deadline on Conservation Reserve Program acres to November 30th. In the middle of September, the USDA added Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Monroe and Vernon Counties to the list of counties declared a federal disaster area due to the drought and in the last part of the month, Clark County was added as well.				
VERNON COUNTY --- 3.4 S GENOA [43.53, -91.22]				
	09/04/12 16:44 CST		0	Hail (1.75 in)
	09/04/12 16:44 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
VERNON COUNTY --- VICTORY [43.48, -91.22]				
	09/04/12 16:46 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 16:46 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
CLARK COUNTY --- GREENWOOD [44.77, -90.60]				
	09/04/12 17:04 CST		1K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	09/04/12 17:04 CST		0	Source: Amateur Radio
Trees were blown down near the Post Office in Greenwood.				
CLARK COUNTY --- 0.6 NNE LOYAL [44.74, -90.50]				
	09/04/12 17:09 CST		2K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	09/04/12 17:09 CST		0	Source: Amateur Radio
Several small trees were blown down in Loyal.				
LA CROSSE COUNTY --- 1.1 SSW CALVERT [43.74, -91.23]				
	09/04/12 17:13 CST		0.50K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	09/04/12 17:13 CST		0	Source: Public
Several four inch diameter tree branches were blown down across the Goose Island campground.				
CLARK COUNTY --- 2.0 NNW CHILI [44.66, -90.37]				
	09/04/12 17:17 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	09/04/12 17:17 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
A wind gust of 60 miles per hour was reported in Veefkind.				

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - September 2012

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
CLARK COUNTY --- 3.1 SSE CURTISS [44.79, -90.34]				
	09/04/12 17:17 CST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	09/04/12 17:17 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
Large trees and power lines were blown down along Hi Line Road southwest of Unity.				
LA CROSSE COUNTY --- 1.4 SE WEST LA CROSSE [43.83, -91.23]				
	09/04/12 17:23 CST		0	Hail (0.75 in)
	09/04/12 17:23 CST		0	Source: Public
VERNON COUNTY --- 0.3 SW GENOA [43.58, -91.22], 0.4 NNW DE SOTO [43.43, -91.20]				
	09/04/12 17:28 CST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 61 kt)
	09/04/12 17:45 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
Numerous trees were blown down from Genoa to De Soto and locations to the east.				
CRAWFORD COUNTY --- 0.9 SE PRAIRIE DU CHIEN [43.04, -91.14]				
	09/04/12 17:42 CST		0	Hail (1.25 in)
	09/04/12 17:42 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
Half dollar sized hail fell in Prairie du Chien.				
LA CROSSE COUNTY --- 2.2 ESE HERRINGTON [43.77, -91.14]				
	09/04/12 17:42 CST		0	Hail (0.88 in)
	09/04/12 17:42 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
GRANT COUNTY --- 1.4 W BRODTVILLE [42.95, -91.05]				
	09/04/12 17:51 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 17:51 CST		0	Source: 911 Call Center
Quarter sized hail fell along County Road P northeast of Bagley.				
VERNON COUNTY --- 0.3 ENE RED MOUND [43.47, -91.14]				
	09/04/12 17:51 CST		35K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 70 kt)
	09/04/12 17:51 CST		0	Source: Emergency Manager
A barn and numerous trees were blown down in and around Red Mound in the Wheatland Township. Widespread power outages were also reported.				
VERNON COUNTY --- 0.4 ENE RED MOUND [43.47, -91.14]				
	09/04/12 17:51 CST		0	Hail (1.75 in)
	09/04/12 17:51 CST		0	Source: Emergency Manager
Up to golf ball sized hail was reported in Red Mound.				
RICHLAND COUNTY --- 1.2 N RICHLAND CENTER [43.35, -90.38]				
	09/04/12 18:13 CST		4K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 55 kt)
	09/04/12 18:13 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
Trees were blown down on the north edge of Richland Center.				
RICHLAND COUNTY --- 3.5 NNW RICHLAND CENTER [43.37, -90.42]				
	09/04/12 18:14 CST		0	Hail (1.50 in)
	09/04/12 18:14 CST		0	Source: Public
Hail up to the size of walnuts was reported northwest of Richland Center.				
GRANT COUNTY --- 0.5 E LANCASTER [42.85, -90.71]				
	09/04/12 18:15 CST		0	Heavy Rain
	09/05/12 04:20 CST		0	Source: CoCoRaHS

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - September 2012

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
Just over 3 inches of rain fell in Lancaster during the evening of the 4th into the early morning of the 5th.				
GRANT COUNTY --- 1.9 SW PATCH GROVE [42.91, -91.00], 2.0 SSW PATCH GROVE [42.90, -90.98]				
	09/04/12 18:37 CST		0.42M	Tornado (EF2, L: 0.72 mi , W: 75 yd)
	09/04/12 18:43 CST		8K	Source: Emergency Manager

A slow moving tornado formed on the edge of a passing severe thunderstorm between Patch Grove and Bloomington. The tornado was mainly confined to one landowner near Hickory and Maine Roads in rural Grant County. Several outbuildings, a barn, and the home were demolished or heavily damaged. Trees on the property were also sheared off or blown over. Considering the roof was torn off and several walls were down or damaged, the tornado was rated an EF2 but it's possible the slow movement allowed the tornado to remain nearly stationary long enough to cause worse damage. Interviews by local residents and video evidence suggests the tornado may have moved to the northwest at times as well.

GRANT COUNTY --- 1.4 ENE BAGLEY [42.91, -91.09], GLENHAVEN [42.83, -91.07]				
	09/04/12 18:54 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 61 kt)
	09/04/12 19:05 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

Several reports of 70 mile per hour winds were received from Bagley south to Glen Haven and east to Bloomington across the northwest portion of Grant County.

CRAWFORD COUNTY --- 0.9 SE PRAIRIE DU CHIEN [43.04, -91.14]				
	09/04/12 19:13 CST		0	Hail (0.75 in)
	09/04/12 19:13 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

GRANT COUNTY --- 2.4 ESE PATCH GROVE [42.92, -90.93]				
	09/04/12 19:15 CST		5K	Hail (1.25 in)
	09/04/12 19:15 CST		0	Source: 911 Call Center

Half dollar sized hail fell southeast of Patch Grove causing damage to a vehicle.

GRANT COUNTY --- 2.6 NNE FIVE PTS [42.86, -90.78]				
	09/04/12 19:25 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	09/04/12 19:25 CST		0	Source: Emergency Manager

Quarter sized hail was reported west of Lancaster.

GRANT COUNTY --- 0.7 N ROCKVILLE [42.73, -90.68]				
	09/04/12 19:35 CST		0	Heavy Rain
	09/05/12 04:25 CST		0	Source: Mesonet

During the evening of the 4th into the early morning hours of the 5th, 3.62 inches of rain fell in Rockville.

GRANT COUNTY --- 0.9 NE POTOSI [42.69, -90.71]				
	09/04/12 20:14 CST		2K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	09/04/12 20:14 CST		0	Source: Amateur Radio

Trees were blown down across a road in Potosi.

VERNON COUNTY --- 0.6 NNE VICTORY [43.49, -91.21]				
	09/05/12 01:00 CST		3K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	09/05/12 01:00 CST		0	Source: Emergency Manager

Large trees were blown down across the far western portions of Vernon County.

Two rounds of thunderstorms impacted parts of western and central Wisconsin on September 4th and 5th. The first event, which was more significant, produced an EF2 tornado outside of Bloomington (Grant County), large hail and damaging winds during the afternoon and evening of the 4th. The tornado demolished or damaged all the buildings on one farm before dissipating. Several trees and a barn were blown down across western Vernon County between Genoa and De Soto. The largest hail reported was golf ball at Genoa and Red Mound (Vernon County). The second round of storms during the early morning hours of the 5th blew down some more trees across western Vernon County.

(WI-Z042) MONROE

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - September 2012

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	09/27/12 14:00 CST		70K	Wildfire
	09/30/12 23:59 CST		0	

One woman was killed and another seriously injured in two separate auto crashes. The accidents occurred in extreme northeast Monroe County along State Highway 173 near the intersection of County Road EW in low visibility due to smoke from a wildfire burning in the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge. The first accident occurred when one vehicle rear ended the other. The drivers were standing between the two vehicles when another crashed into the rear of one of the vehicles involved in the first accident pushing it into the women. It was the injuries from the second accident that caused the death and injuries. Officials closed a 10 mile stretch of State Highway 173 both Saturday September 29th and Sunday September 30th because of low visibility from the fire. Crews from the Warrens (Monroe County) Fire Department, Wisconsin DNR and U.S. Fish and Wildlife were able to contain the fire in less than 4 hours after it was first reported. The fire was not declared out until the middle of October. Almost 57 acres were burned by the fire that was started by a hawk that got tangled in power lines.